

AUTOMATIC REFERENCE-PRESSURE BALANCE METHOD

Abstract

5 The present invention provides a system and method for calibrating
pressure sensors associated with chambers in a processing facility. The system
calibrates the pressure sensors while the chamber are open to each other, such
as through an open slit valve or vacuum sealed door. Maintaining the pressure
10 in the chambers relative to each other prevents a rush of gases, condensate or
other foreign materials into an adjacent chamber that may occur when the
pressure between the chambers is not equalized. This prevents contamination
of the materials being processed, and eliminates the need for system shut-
down to calibrate sensors. Also, since calibration occurs every time the slit
15 valve is open, the calibration is real-time and does not allow the pressure
differential between the chambers to become too great.

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